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~~Food~~ (1949) Department.

4/9 SERIES.

G.O. No. 432

432

Dated 23.5.49

[Despatch Abstract.]

FOOD SITUATION : MADRAS PROVINCE : REPORT FOR THE FIRST FORTNIGHT OF APRIL 1949 : REVEIW : PAPERS RECORDED.

From
N.S. Mani, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Commissioner
of Civil Supplies,
Chepauk, Madras.

To
The Secretary to the Government
of India,
Ministry of Food,
NEW DELHI.

L.Dis. No.E.54968/49 (CS) dated 28th April 1949.

Sub: FOOD SITUATION - Province of Madras - Report for the Fortnight ending 15th April 1949 - Forwarded.

I am directed to forward herewith five copies of the report on the food situation in the Province of Madras for the fortnight ending 15th April 1949.

Sd/. for Secretary.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Food Department, Fort St.George, Madras, etc., etc.

REPORT ON THE FOOD SITUATION IN THE PROVINCE OF MADRAS DURING THE FIRST FORTNIGHT OF APRIL 1949.

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1. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP PROSPECTS: The rainfall during the fortnight was moderate in the districts of East Godavari, Krishna, Salem, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Mathurai, Ramnad, Malabar and the Nilgiris fair in Visakhapatnam, West Godavari, Nellore, North Arcot, Tanjore and Tirunelveli and light in other districts.

Water supply was inadeaute in the districts of Anantapur, Cuddapah, Chingleput, South Arcot, Chittoor, North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli and Ramanad and in parts of Visakhaptnam, East Godavari Kurnool, Bellary, Nellore and Mathurai.

The conditions of standing crops was poor in Chingleput and North Arcot and generally fair in other districts. Paddy crop in parts of South Arcot was affected by pests. Standing crops on a major extent in all taluks of Chingleput and in parts of Chittoor, North Arcot, Rmand and Tirunelveli districts had withered or were withering for want of adequate rain orw water supply.

II. EXTENT TO WHICH RATIONING HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN:

(i) Nature of existing Government Commitments: At the beginning of the fortnight under review, statutory rationing was in force in 64 municipal areas, one panchayat area and in Madras City and its suburban areas.

There was also rationing on a non-statutory basis in the rural areas of all deficit districts. As regards the surplus districts, distribution of foodgrains was made through relief shops in the upland taluks of Guntur and Nellore districts; in all other areas, distribution of foodgrains was made through retail agencies.

(ii) Towns/Areas brought under Rationing during the Fort-night: Pre-rationing enequiries for the introduction of statutory rationing in the municipal areas of Dharapuram, Erode, Mettupaléyam, Pollachi and Udumalpet in Coimbatore district have been completed and rationing has actually been introduced with effect from the 17th April 1949. The introduction of regular rationing (statutory and rural) has since been completed in all the deficit districts in this province. It has also been decided to re-introduce rationing in the deficit pockets and in certain municipal areas of the surplus districts in this province and necessary arrangements are being made to implement this decision at an early date.

(iii) Population involved separtely for Towns and Rural areas:

	Adults	Children	Total in terms of Adults.	
Areas under Rural Rationing*	2,70,06,428	90,64,358	3,15,38,607	*Revised figures with reference t the monthly reports received from the Collectors.
Statutorily rationed areas	44,88,246	12,09,413	50,92,952	
Areas covered by Relief Shops @	5,77,019	1,62,130	6,58,084	@Revised figures with reference to the monthly reports received from the Collectors.

(Population figures as at the end of March 1949).

III. REVIEW OF PROGRESS OF PROCUREMENT, BASIC PLAN MOVEMENTS ETC:

(i) Progress of Procurement: The following is the progress of procurement during and upto the fortnight ending 31st March 1949.

Food grains	Target for Kharif year 1948-49 i.e. from 1-11-48 to 31-X.49 (Tons)	Quantity procured during the fortnight ending 31-3-49 (Tons)	Quantity procured from 1-11-1948 to 31-3-1949 (Tons)	Percentage of procurement to target.
Rice	15,14,900*	86,113	7,97,035@	53
Millets	1,68,850	4,770	19,148@	11

* Revised figure based on the final estimate of production.
@ Revised figures.

(ii) Basic Plan Movements:

(a) Rice. The following quantities were received in the fort-night

(1) Orissa.	Tons.	2,626
(2) Eastern States.		298
(3) Coorg		395
(4)Vindya Pradesh		50
(5) Overseas		6,000
Total.		9,369.

(b) Millets and Maize: There were no receipts of millets or maixe either from overseas or from other areas.

The April quota of 6,000 tons of overseas maize to the Province is expected to be received ex. S.S."Iran" at Madras Port on 18-4-1949.

The Government of India have allotted to this Province the entire provisional surplus stocks of about 4,600 tons of millets (comprising 3,500 tons of ragi, 1,000 tons of jowar and 100 tons of bajra) from Orissa province. Necessary instructions have been issued to the Special Officer for Rice at Visakhapatnam for inspecting the stocks and for arranging their movement to the quota districts expeditiously.

(c) Wheat and Wheat Products: 7,600 tons of wheat were received during the fort-nignt - 3,500 tons ex.s.s."Vergnor" and 4,100 tons, ex.S.S."Essex Trader" which arrived on 11th April 1949.

(d) Gram: An additional quota of 6,000 tons has been allotted to this province from the East Punjab States Union. This raises the

the total quota from this source to 21,000 tons. Towards this quota, a quantity of 3,040 tons was in transit during the fortnight and the total receipts upto the end of the fortnight amounted to 11,020 tons (comprising 1,600 tons of gram flour, 3,300 tons of gram dhall and 6,120 tons of wholegram). The balance quota is expected to move very shortly.

725 tons of gram have so far been procured and moved from the Bikaner State. The balance quota will be moved immediately on receipt of the reply from the Bikaner Government regarding the centre from which the supply will be arranged.

Despatching instructions have since been issued to the Director of Food and Civil Supplies, Rewa (Vindya Pradesh Union) for the quota allotted to this province from the Vindya Pradesh Union. But a quantity of about 30,000 maunds only is acceptable and this will be moved shortly.

(iii) Ration (Scales and Composition) and Offtake:

(a) Statutory Rationing: There was no change in the scale and composition of the ration during the fortnight under review.

The offtake of foodgrains during the four weekly month of March 1949 was as follows:-

Rice.	*28032 tons
Wheat and wheat Products.	2765 tons
Other grains	985 tons
	31782 tons

*(Revised figures with reference to the latest monthly reports received from the Rationing Officers).

The offtake figures exclude the offtake in the municipal areas of North Arcot, Visakhapatnam and Ramnad districts where statutory rationing was introduced some time towards the middle or end of March, 1949.

(b) Rural Rationing: There was no change in the scale and composition of the ration during the fortnight under review. The offtake of foodgrains from the rural ration shops during March 1949 (four weeks only) was as follows:-

Rice.	* 50,360 tons
Wheat and wheat products.	2,048 "
Other grains.	9,520 "
	61,928 tons

"(Revised figures with reference to the latest monthly reports received from the Collectors.)

(c) Distribution through Relief Shops in unrationed areas: Relief shops were functioning during the fortnight under review in the upland taluks of Guntur and Nellore districts and in the municipal areas of Coimbatore district excluding the municipal towns of Coimbatore and Tiruppur where statutory rationing was already in force. The relief shops functioning in the municipal areas of Coimbatore district have since been converted into ration shops consequent on the introduction of statutory rationing in these areas. Relief shops are now functioning in the upland taluks of Guntur and Nellore districts only.

There was no change in the scale and composition of the relief sh quota in the unrationed areas:

The offtake through relief shops functioning in Nellore and Guntur districts during March 1949 (four weeks only) was as follows:

Rice.	664 tons
Wheat and wheat products.	32 "
Other grains.	115 "
	811 tons.

(The offtake through the relief shops in North Arcot and Coimbatore districts has been included in the offtake from the rural ration shops).

(iv) Food Control Organisation: The post of the Assistant Commissioner of Civil Supplies (Fuel) in the headquarters office was abolished with effect from 1st April 1949.

IV. REVIEW OF SUPPLIES, MOVEMENTS AND PRICES: (i) Stock and Supply:

(a) Rice: The total provincial stock increased from 4,75,028 tons on 26th March 1949 to 5,02,672 tons on 9th April 1949 due to the harvest of the main crop in most of the districts. The stocks in the districts were adequate.

(b) Millets and Maize: The stocks of maize and "other grains" on the 9th April 1949 was 13,448 and 2,913 tons respectively. Including the stocks received in the two ships which arrvied on 11-4-1949 and those in transit, the stock of wheat was 23,362 tons. The stock position is satisfactory.

(ii) Movements and Transport: Movements by sea from the northern circars to Malabar continued and the supply of waggons, particularly on the metre guage in this area, deteriorated, the result being large ~~quantitie~~ accumulations of stocks in the mills which impede procurement, particularly in the Krishna district and the portion of the West Godavari district served by the metre guage line.

No improvement in the movement of pulses into the Presidency, which was adverted to in the report for the last fortnight, was noticed.

Movements of rice from Coorg improved slighly but were still not up to schedule.

(iii) Prices: The statement below shows the provincial average retail prices of rice (second sort) cholam (jowar) and cumbu (bajra) during the first fortnight of April 1949. The retail prices of these foodgrains flucutated within narrow limits during the fortnight:

(Prices are in terms of rupees per imperial maund)

Foodgrains	Prices on 9-4-1949	Prices a fortnight ago	Prices a month ago	Prices a year ago.
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs/
Rice (II Sort)	15.71	15.75	15.81	16.25
Cholam (Jowar)	10.02	9.92	9.99	10.55
Cumbu (Bajra)	10.91	11.17	10.49	10.95

V. MISCELLANEOUS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF REVISED FOOD POLICY: Nothing special to report.

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FOOD DEPARTMENT.

Sub: FOOD SITUATION - Madras Province - Report for the fortnight ending the 15th April 1949 - Review.
Ref: From the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) L.Dis.E.54968/49 dated the 28th April 1949.

The report on the Food situation in the Madras Province for the first fortnight of April 1949 may be perused at pages 2-6 c.f.

RAINFALL: The rainfall during the fortnight was moderate in the districts of East Godavari, Krishna, Salem, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Mathurai, Ramnad, Malabar and the Nilgiris, fair in Visakhaptnam, West Godavari, Nellore, North Arcot, Tanjore and Tirunelveli and lightin other districts.

WATER SUPPLY: Was supply was inadequate in the districts of Anantapur, Cuddapah, Chingleput, South Arcot, Chittoor, North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli and Ramnad and in parts of Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Kurnool, Bellary, Nellore and Mathurai.

STANDING CROPS: The condition of standing crops was poor in Chingleput and North Arcot and generally fair in other districts. Paddy crop in parts of South Arcot was affected by pests. Standing crops on a major extent in all taluks of Chingleput and in parts of Chittoor, North Arcot, Ramnad and Tirunelveli districts had withered or were withering for want of adequate rain or water supply.

HARVEST AND OUTTURN: Harvest of paddy was proceeding in Nellore, Tirunelveli and in parts of Anantapur, Tiruchirappalli and South Arcot; of Cholam in West Godavari, Salem, Kurnool and Tiruchirappali; of Cumbu in Kurnool; and of ragi in Kurnool, Nellore and Tiruchirappalli. The outturn of paddy was poor to fair or fair to normal while the outturn of millets wasapoor to fair.

STOCK AND SUPPLY POSITION: The stock position of foodgrains in the Province was as follows on 16th April 1949 when compared with the stock position on 9th April 1949.

Foodgrains.	Stock on 9-4-49	Stock on 16-4-49.
Rice	5,02,672	4,97,961
Wheat	13,448	14,144
Maida	2,913	2,806
Semolina	3,835	4,018
Maize	3,897	3,369
Other grains	24,940	23,884
Total.	5,51,755	5,46,182

RICE:

The following quantitites were received in the fort-night:

(1) Orissa	2326 tons
(2) Eastern States	298 tons
(3) Coorg	395 tons
(4) Vindya Pradesh	50 tons
(5) Overseas	6000 tons
Total.	9369 tons.

The stocks of rice in the districts were adeauate.

MILLETS AND MAIZE: There were no receipts of millets or maize either from Overseas or from other areas.

The April quota of 6,000 tons of overseas maize to the Province was received ex.S.S."Iran" at Madras Port on 18-4-1949.

The Government of India have allotted to this Province the entire provisional surplus stocks of about 4,600 tons of millets (comprising 3,500 tons or ragi, 1000 tons of jowar and 100 tons of

bajra) from Orissa Province. Necessary instructions have been issued to the Special Officer for Rice at Visakhapatnam for inspecting the stocks and for arranging their movements to the quota districts expeditiously.

WHEAT AND WHEAT PRODUCTS: 7,600 tons of wheat were received during the fort-night.

GRAM: An addition quota of 6,000 tons has been allotted to this Province from the East Punjab States Union. This raises the total quota from this source to 21,000 tons. Towards this quota, a quantity of 3,040 tons was in transit during the fortnight and the total receipts upto the end of the fortnight amounted to 11,020 tons (comprising 1,600 tons of gram flour 3,300 tons of gram dhall and 6,120 tons of wholegram). The balance of quota is expected to move very shortly.

725 tons of gram have so far been procured and moved from Bikaner State.

PROGRESS OF PROCUREMENT: 96,113 tons of rice and 4,770 tons of millets were procured during the fortnight ending 15th March 1949.

PRICES: The statement of price at "H" on pages 5-6 c.f. and the statements at pages 7-12 c.f. may be perused.

The case may be circulated to H.M.(Food) and H.M.(P.W.) and H.E. for pereusal.

xx/6.5.49

U.Kumarayya/6.5.49
Dy.Secy.
T.S.C.(Rajan)/6.5.49
H.M.(Food)
M.B(kathavatalam)/6.5.
H.M.(P.W.)

H.E. has seen thanks.

xx/12.5.49
P.S.G.

The papers may now be recorded.

G.O. (Ms) No. 432 Food dated the 23rd May 1949.

Abstract

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FOOD SITUATION - Madras Province - Report for the first fortnight of April 1949 - Review - Papers - Recorded.

/True copy/

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office, Egmore.

Sk.

5/2017